REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 22, 2006, having a shortened statutory period set to expire June 22, 2006. Proposed amendments to the Claims include **amending** Claim 1 and **adding** Claims 3-5. Upon entry of the proposed amendments, Claims 1-5 will now be pending.

Applicants appreciate the time and courtesy extended by Examiner Stoynor and Supervisor Browne during a June 21, 2006 teleconference. No agreement was reached during this teleconference regarding the allowability of any pending claims.

Double Patent Rejection

On Page 2 of the present Office Action, the Examiner has presented a non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection against co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/674,838. An appropriate terminal disclaimer is enclosed herein, and thus this rejection should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

On Page 3 of the present Office Action, Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Frye, JR* (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0126426 – "*Frye*") in view of *Schell et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,314,520 – "*Schell*") and *Pan et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0081104 – "*Pan*"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

With regards to exemplary **Claim 1**, the combination of the cited art does not teach or suggest "A service for managing a secure network boot of a server blade, the server blade being in a blade chassis that has multiple server blades, the blade chassis including a switching means allowing the server blade to communicate with a network, the service comprising: storing a list

of trusted management servers in a management module on a server blade (as supported by Figure 2 of the present specification); broadcasting a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) DISCOVER request to a network of DHCP servers (as supported by paragraph [0018]); receiving, at a switching means associated with the server blade, a DHCP OFFER message that is responsive to the DHCP DISCOVER request, wherein the DHCP OFFER message contains Internet Protocol (IP) addresses of responding DHCP servers, a Dynamic IP address with lease information, **and a list of Pre-boot eXecution Environment (PXE) Boot Servers that can be contacted by the server blade to download a boot program**, and wherein the DHCP OFFER comes from a responding DHCP server on the network of DHCP servers (also supported by paragraph [0018]; comparing an identity of the responding DHCP server with the list of trusted DHCP servers in the management module on the server blade (as supported by Figure 2 of the present specification); in response to verifying that the responding DHCP server is on the list of trusted DHCP servers, permitting the DHCP OFFER message to pass through to the server blade via an Ethernet switch that is coupled to the server blade (supported at paragraph [0020]), and downloading a boot program from a boot program server specified by the responding DHCP server; in response to determining that the responding DHCP server is not on the list of trusted DHCP servers, blocking the transmittal of the response from the responding DHCP server through the Ethernet switch to the server blade (supported at paragraph [0021]); and in response to determining that the responding DHCP server is not on the list of trusted DHCP servers, generating an alert to a designated administrator server of a presence of an unauthorized DHCP server on the network of DHCP servers (support found at paragraph [0021]).

The combination of the cited art does not teach or suggest a response to a DHCP DISCOVER message containing Internet Protocol (IP) addresses of responding DHCP servers, a Dynamic IP address with lease information, and a list of Pre-boot eXecution Environment (PXE) Boot Servers that can be contacted by the server blade to download a boot program.

Furthermore, the combination of the cited art does not teach or suggest "in response to determining that the responding DHCP server is not on the list of trusted DHCP servers, generating an alert to a designated administrator server of a presence of an unauthorized DHCP server on the network of DHCP servers." *Frye* is cited in the present Office Action at paragraph

[0047] for this teaching. However, paragraph [0047] of *Frye* discusses a console monitor, on a PXE server, which shows which client computers are using the PXE server. There is no teaching or suggestion of "an alert" being generated, particularly with regards to "a presence of an unauthorized DHCP server." Furthermore, *Frye* shows client computers being monitored, not management (e.g., DHCP) servers.

With regards to **Claim 2**, the combination of the cited art does not teach or suggest "an information technology services organization logically oriented between the different types of boot program servers and the server blade." This feature is described in Figure 4 and paragraph [0026] of the present specification. In brief, a centralized service (such as IBM's Global Services – "IGS") acts as a clearinghouse/filter for different PXE servers, sending the PXE boot request from the blade server to the appropriate PXE server. *Schell* is cited at col. 2, lines 3-11 for teaching this feature. However, *Schell* is directed to a NIC being programmed to accept packets only from trusted sources. There is no teaching or suggestion of a service such as IGS that acts as a clearinghouse/filter between the client blade server and the PXE servers.

Regarding new **Claim 3**, the combination of the cited art does not teach or suggest "wherein the information technology services organization is an Information Technology (IT) services organization that manages various types of Pre-boot eXecution Environment (PXE) deployment servers, and wherein the IT services organization enables a same IT service organization assigned systems administrator to manage the various types of PXE deployment servers, to maintain permission lists for each PXE server type, to monitor a network for a presence of unauthorized PXE servers that are not authorized, by the IT services organization, to support the client computer, and to shut down network ports, for unauthorized PXE servers, in the client computer," as supported in the present specification in paragraph [0026].

Regarding new **Claim 4**, the combination of the cited art does not teach or suggest "wherein the alert to the designated administrator server is made using a Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) trap sent by the server blade," as supported in paragraph [0021] of the present specification.

Regarding new **Claim 5**, the combination of the cited art does not teach or suggest "wherein none of the steps described in claim 1 causes any code changes to firmware in the server blade," as supported in the present specification at paragraph [0027].

Regarding new **Claim 6**, the combination of the cited art does not teach or suggest "in response to the responding DHCP server not being on the list of trusted DHCP servers, downloading a boot program fro a trusted PXE server on a secure Local Area Network (LAN)," as supported in the present specification at paragraph [0022].

CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, Applicants now respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

Applicant further respectfully requests the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney of record at 512.617.5533 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present Application.

No extension of time for this response is believed to be necessary. However, in the event an extension of time is required, that extension of time is hereby requested. Please charge any fee associated with an extension of time as well as any other fee necessary to further the prosecution of this application, including any required fees associated with the included Terminal Disclaimers, to **IBM CORPORATION DEPOSIT ACCOUNT No. 50-0563.**

Respectfully submitted,

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